

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02496 231152Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 H-03 CU-04 PA-04

USIA-15 SCI-06 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 /104 W

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R 231117Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5307

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2496

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CZ

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 199480

1. AFTER HAVING DEALT WITH ANOTHER MATTER (SEPTTEL), MFA SIXTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR ZANTOVSKY TOLD DCM OCTOBER 19 THAT PRELIMINARIES FOR CULTURAL SIDE OF FORTHCOMING EXCHANGES NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN ESSENTIALLY COMPLETED AND THAT DRAFT WILL BE READY LATER THIS MONTH. DRAFT FOR SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL EXCHANGES WOULD, HOWEVER, NOT BE READY FOR UP TO TWO WEEKS THEREAFTER. ZANTOVSKY PROPOSED THAT TWO DRAFTS BE HANDED OVER TOGETHER, REMARKING THAT, WHILE CZECHS WOULD DELIVER SEPARATE DRAFTS AND EXPECTED NEGOTIATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED BY SEPARATE COMMITTEES (AT LEAST FROM THEIR SIDE), THEY REALIZED THAT RESULT MIGHT BE SINGLE AGREEMENT.

2. ZANTOVSKY THEN PROJECTED TWO ADDITIONAL STAGES BEYOND EXCHANGE OF DRAFTS. HE PROPOSED THAT DISCUSSIONS BE HELD IN NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS IN PRAGUE OR WASHINGTON TO CLEAR UP ANY QUESTIONS ARISING FROM TEXTS, THESE TO BE FOLLOWED BY ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH SHOULD BE COMPLETED QUICKLY (DAYS, NOT WEEKS) AS RESULT OF PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION.

3. DCM AGREED THAT SUCH PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION COULD BE USEFUL, BUT SAID IT NEED NOT DRAG ON. HE SUGGESTED THAT WE
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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02496 231152Z

MIGHT SET THREE DATES IN ADVANCE (EXCHANGE OF DRAFTS, INFORMAL

DISCUSSION, AND NEGOTIATIONS) HAVING IN MIND THAT YEAR-END
HOLIDAY SEASON IS NOT FAR AWAY.

4. ZANTOVSKY REPEATED THAT CZECHS ARE ANXIOUS NOT TO EXTEND
DELAY WHICH, HE INSISTED, WAS ENTIRELY FOR TECHNICAL REASONS,
AND WANTED TO PROCEED WITH PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH THEY
DID NOT SEE AS DIFFICULT.

5. DISCUSSION ENDED ON THIS NOTE. WE ASSUME THAT DEPARTMENT
WILL BE FOLLOWING UP ON SPACIL DEMARCHE AND WILL THEN CONVEY
ITS WISHES ON PROCEDURE.
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Message Attributes

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